15th December 1961]

Remission of land revenue.

587 *Q.*—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN: Will the Hon. Minister for Home be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of ryots to whom the exploratory tubewell water was supplied at Vilandai village, Udayarpalayam taluk in Tiruchirappalli district;

(*b*) the number of ryots whose crops were affected adversely for want of sufficient supply of water during Fasli 1370; and

(*c*) the details as to the concession shown to them on account of the failure of crops?

A.—(*a*) Thirteen.

(*b*) Six.

(*c*) An extent of 12·63 acres was cultivated under first crop, an extent of 11·44 acres under second crop and an extent of 1·88 acres under third crop in Fasli 1370. No remission was granted for the first crop. A sum of Rs. 28·36 was granted as remission for the second crop. The third crop was not charged.

Reclamation of tanks.

588 *Q.*—SRI M. S. SELVARAJAN: Will the Hon. Minister for Home be pleased to furnish the particulars of the tanks proposed to be desilted and reclaimed in Tirunelveli district this year?

A.—An estimate of Rs. 4,32,000 for desilting the Periakulam tank in Srivaikuntam taluk of Tirunelveli district has been prepared and the proposal is being scrutinised by the Board of Revenue.

The following five works are now under investigation:—

(1) Desilting-*cum*-Reclamation to Rajakularamperi tank in Tenkasi taluk.

(2) Desilting-*cum*-Reclamation to Surandai Periakulam in Tenkasi taluk.

(3) Desilting of Arumugamangalam Palayamkal and Marichikatti Peekulam in Srivaikuntam taluk.

(4) Desilting Nainarkulam in Tirunelveli taluk.

(5) Desilting Padalayarkulam tank in Nanguneri taluk.

Execution of all these works will be taken up after the investigation is over and sanction is accorded by the competent authority.

(An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.)

II.—CALLING ATTENTION TO THE PREVALENCE OF FAMINE CONDITIONS IN CHINGLEPUT DISTRICT.

SRI V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIYAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I call the attention of the Hon. Minister for Revenue to a matter of urgent public importance, viz., the acute famine condition prevailing in certain firkas of Madurantakam taluk, Chingleput district due to failure of monsoon and the steps taken by the Government to provide relief measures to the people living in the famine affected areas.

[Sri V. K. Ramaswamy Mudaliyar] [15th December 1961

Sir . . .

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The hon. Member need not make any speech now.

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to make the following statement. During this year, though the rainfall was good during the period July to October 1961, there was a partial failure in November with the result that the rain-fed tanks of Acharapakkam and Chithamur firkas and southern part of Madurantakam firka in Madurantakam taluk do not have adequate supply. However, there has been well distributed rainfall in the first week of December 1961. There are also a large number of pump-sets in the area to supplement irrigation in the wet lands. The dry crops in the area have already been successfully harvested and the condition of the standing crops in the wet lands is fair. About 2,000 acres of paddy crops do not have any supplemental source of irrigation and there may be partial failure of these crops if there is a complete failure of rainfall during this season.

There is no scarcity of foodgrains or fodder in the area. The prices of foodgrains in Madurantakam taluk are the same as in the other parts of the district. However, the Collector has ordered that fair-price shops to be opened at Madurantakam, Karunghuzi, Chithamur, Cheyyur and Chunampet as a precautionary measure. Additional shops will also be opened by him if the situation warrants it. The kist season when the demand for the current fasli will fall due is from February 1962. The question of grant of remission in deserving cases will be considered then, if circumstances warrant it. No relief measures are necessary immediately. Revenue Officers are touring the area intensively and watching the agricultural conditions.

III.—STATEMENT UNDER RULE 82 *re* FAILURE OF MONSOON AND THE SUFFERINGS OF PEOPLE IN KARUR TALUK.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the Hon. Minister will make a statement under Rule 8, on a matter raised by the hon. Member, Sri S. Sadasivam.

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : In the dry areas of Karur taluk the usual crops grown are ground-nut, cumbu and gingelly; cultivation season is August and September. Cholam is also raised in the months of October and November. For want of timely rains during this year, only an extent of 60,000 acres as against 1,10,000 acres last year were cultivated from April to October. Cultivation has commenced only in the last week of October after the on-set of rains. Subsequently, the season has turned for the better and agricultural operations are in full swing. The standing crops are also reported to be in good condition, the average out-turn expected being six annas in the dry areas. Some scarcity of fodder was felt for a few days in the last fortnight of September